

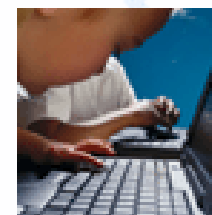
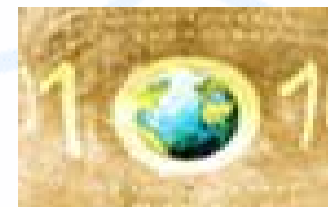
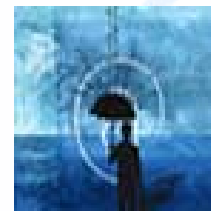
The World Summit on the Information Society

Summer University Programme 2003
ITU, 7-8 July 2003

Towards the Summit

- Brief overview
- Achievements
- Content
- The process
- Next steps

21th century: Information Revolution



19th century: Industrial revolution



Why the Summit?

Emergence of the concept of the
information society

Need for a harmonious evolution in policies,
regulations, networks and services in all
Member States

([ITU Res. 73](#), *Minneapolis, 1998*)

Why the Summit?

The UN General Assembly recognized " *the urgent need to harness the potential of knowledge and technology for promoting the goals of the United Nations (UN) Millennium Declaration and to find effective and innovative ways to put this potential at the service of development for all*"

And the need to *"ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication technologies ... are available to all"*.

(UNGA Res. 56/183, [UN Millennium Declaration](#))

What can the Summit hope to achieve?

- A common vision of the Information Society
- A declaration of principles and action plan

Declaration of Principles and Action Plan

“We the representatives of the peoples of the world, declare our common desire and commitment to build a new kind of society, the Information Society”

- A declaration of principles and action plan
 - Using ICTs to achieve **Millennium Development Goals**
 - A **firm foundation** for the development of the Information Society
 - **New projects and partnerships**

Key issues addressed in the Declaration and Action Plan

- **ICTs for development**
 - Using ICTs to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals
 - Addressing the injustice of the digital divide
- **ICTs and policy**
 - Responding to challenges to privacy, security, intellectual property rights
 - Using ICTs to advance democracy, human rights, justice
- **ICTs applications and content**
 - Overcoming digital exclusion (access to ICTs and ability to use: content, cultural and linguistic diversity, education in ICTs and ICTs for education)
 - E-applications: to improve accessibility, efficiency and transparency

More issues for discussion...

- **Financing:** ICTs as a tool for development - Digital solidarity fund, global digital compact, other initiatives?
- **Respecting rights in the virtual world:** Human rights, including freedom of expression, consumers' rights, protection of childhood, etc.
- **Policy framework for cyberspace:** Need to move towards a more formal and structured treaty-approach to international cooperation in cyberspace?

Cont...

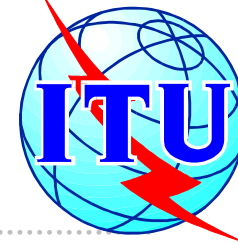
- **Internet governance:** [international] versus [intergovernmental]
- **Intellectual Property Rights:** need to re-balance IPR in the digital environment?
- **Open source software:** Great hope in open source as a way to make ICTs more affordable
- **Competition and liberalisation, responsibilities of stakeholders, security, spamming, Internet traffic contracts, trade embargoes...**

Summit process up to now

- Regional conferences
- PrepCom-1 (July 1-5 2002)
- PrepCom-2 (14-28 February 2003) -
Outcome: [Draft Declaration of Principles and Action Plan](#). Posted on the Web.

Inputs received:

- 35 Contributions from Governments - about 300 pages
- 20 contributions from inter-governmental organizations - 170 pages
- 42 contributions from civil society NGOs - about 300 pages
- 7 contributions from the business sector - about 15 pages



Paris Intersessional meeting (15-18 July):

Entering the negotiating phase



- Where we are: Refined Declaration and Action Plan + government contributions
- Where we are going: Paris meeting (Formal open-ended intergovernmental drafting group). Good percentage of the text should be approved before PrepCom-3 (September 2003)

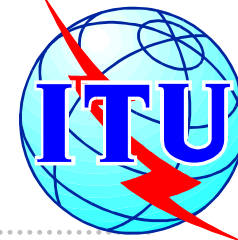
Future:

WSIS First Phase: Geneva, 10-12 December 2003 - Declaration and Action Plan

WSIS Second Phase: Tunis, 2005: Focus on development - assessment of progress made in the adoption of the action plan - new projects and partnerships



world summit
on the information society
Geneva 2003 - Tunis 2005



Further information

[WWW.ITU.INT/WSIS](http://www.itu.int/wsis)

Document Title	Language
WSIS/PC-SIC/0001	English
Cuba WSIS/PC-SIC/0104	Spanish
Czech Republic WSIS/PC-SIC/0003	English
El Salvador WSIS/PC-SIC/0106	Spanish
Ethiopia WSIS/PC-SIC/0006	English
European Commission 3rd Task Force WSIS/PC-SIC/0113	English
European Union WSIS/PC-SIC/0014	English
FR WSIS/PC-SIC/0007	English
India (Republic of) WSIS/PC-SIC/0108	English
Inter-Parliamentary Group (supported by the Government of Ethiopia) WSIS/PC-SIC/0019	English
Islamic Republic of Iran WSIS/PC-SIC/0014	English
Islamic Republic of Iraq WSIS/PC-SIC/0014	English
Islamic Republic of Iran WSIS/PC-SIC/0003	English

The screenshot shows the homepage of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). The page features a navigation menu with categories such as 'basic information', 'preparatory process', 'documents', 'how to participate', 'newsroom', 'background material', 'links', 'funding of WSIS', 'host country secretariat', and 'WSIS related website'. A large red circle highlights the 'WSIS - Inter-Sessional Meeting Paris (France), 15-18 July 2003' section, which includes details about the meeting and links to related documents.



Working documents have been posted on the Web Site



The screenshot shows the website interface for the World Summit on the Information Society. The main content area features a 'Documents' section with the following table:

Documents	
Working documents are published in the six official languages of WSI.	
Title	Available languages and formats
Draft declaration of principles WSIS/PCIF/030721/TO/04/000	[arabic] [chinese] [english] [french] [russian] [spanish] [arabic] [chinese] [english] [french] [russian] [spanish]
Draft action plan WSIS/PCIF/030721/TO/04/000	[arabic] [chinese] [english] [french] [russian] [spanish] [arabic] [chinese] [english] [french] [russian] [spanish]

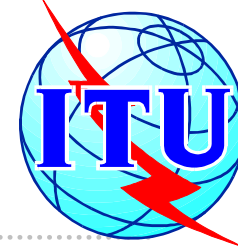


www.itu.int/visions





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Thanks!

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